

Message Text

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21

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-10 ISO-00 AID-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-02 USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-02

DPW-01 SR-02 ORM-01 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 ACDA-10

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FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9195

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLON PEKING

USMISSION GENEVA

UNCLAS USUN 0528

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UN CI

SUBJECT: CHILEAN PERMREP HUERTA'S UN PRESS CONFERENCE

1. AT INFORMAL MEETING WITH PRESS AT UN CORRESPONDENTS ASSOCIATION CLUB FEB 18 CHILEAN AMB HUERTA FIELDDED FOLLOWING SUBJECTS, SPECIFYING THAT STORIES SHOULD NOT ATTRIBUTE RESPONSES DIRECTLY TO HIM.

2. SECRETARY KISSINGER'S VISIT TO CHILE: HUERTA SAID WHILE HE AS FONMIN HAD INVITED SECRETARY KISSINGER TO CHILE OVER A YEAR AGO AND THE SECRETARY INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO MAKE VISIT, NO DATE AS YET HAS BEEN SET. HE EXPECTED SECRETARY TO DISCUSS AID MATTERS DURING CHILEAN VISIT. HE OBSERVED THAT SECRETARY LIKES TO MAKE PERSONAL CONTACTS WITH LA GOVERNMENT LEADERS. HE REFRAINED FROM PREDICTING HOW LONG SECRETARY MIGHT STAY IN CHILE.

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3. CIA IN CHILE: WHEN ASKED WHO RECEIVED THE MONEY ALLEGEDLY SPENT BY THE CIA IN CHILE TO OVERTHROW ALLENDE, HUERTA SAID "I WOULD ALSO LIKE TO KNOW." HE NOTED THAT USG INVESTIGATING MATTER. HE SAID "ONE THING IS VERY CLEAR; THE CURRENT MILITARY GOVERNMENT IN CHILE HAS NOT BEEN OFFERED MONEY." HE EXPRESSED DISAPPROVAL OF OTHER GOVERNMENTS PAYING PEOPLE TO MEDDLE IN DOMESTIC AFFAIRS, HE SAID THE US IS "WONDERFUL" BECAUSE PEOPLE CAN TALK SO FREELY ABOUT INTELLIGENCE ACTIVITIES OF USG.

4. STATUS OF DETAINEES: HUERTA SAID CHILE NO LONGER HAS POLITICAL PRISONERS UNDER DETENTION, THOSE CONFINED ARE INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE COMMITTED SPECIFIC CRIMINAL ACTS. THE GOC STRONGLY OPPOSES CRUELTY AND TORTURE. HOWEVER, SOME ACTIONS WHICH COULD BE CHARACTERIZED AS TORTURE MAY HAVE BEEN COMMITTED IN THE FIRST DAYS AFTER SEP 11 1973 WHEN THE SITUATION WAS VERY CONFUSED. OF THE 700 DETAINEES WHOM THE GOC IS PREPARED TO RELEASE IF OTHER COUNTRIES WILL ACCEPT THEM, MORE THAN 200 HAVE BEEN ACCEPTED ABROAD. WHILE MEXICO HAS ACCEPTED ABOUT 150, INCLUDING ALLENDE'S SISTER, ABOUT 50 HAVE DECIDED TO REMAIN IN CHILE RATHER THAN TO GO TO MEXICO.

5. OBSERVER MISSIONS: HUERTA SAID THAT ALTHOUGH MANY FOREIGN OBSERVER MISSIONS HAVE BEEN CRITICAL OF CHILE AND HAVE PREPARED REPORTS AGAINST CHILE'S BEST INTERESTS, GOC BELIEVES IT BETTER TO ALLOW THEM INTO CHILE " BECAUSE WE HAVE NOTHING TO HIDE. " HE EXPRESSED HOPE THAT OTHER COUNTRIES OUTSIDE LA REGION WOULD ALSO PERMIT INVESTIGATING MISSIONS COMPOSED OF PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS OR REPRESENTATIVES OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS.

6. SYG WALDHEIM'S REPRESENTATIONS ON CHILE: HUERTA CONFIRMED THAT SYG WALDHEIM PERIODICALLY SENDS QUESTIONS TO CHILEAN UN MISSION ABOUT DEVELOPMENTS IN CHILE AND SAID THAT GOC HAD ANSWERED ALL THESE QUESTIONS. HE ADDED THAT ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WILL BE SUPPLIED TO WALDHEIM AFTER CONCLUSION OF CURRENT HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION DISCUSSION OF CHILE IN GENEVA.

7. FOREIGN INVESTMENTS IN CHILE: HUERTA SAID CHILE HAS ALWAYS OPPOSED FOREIGN CORPORATIONS MIXING IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS BUT UNCLASSIFIED

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GOC WELCOMES FOREIGN CAPITAL IF LOCAL RIGHTS ARE RESPECTED. HUERTA SAID THIS IS POSITION TAKEN BY CHILE IN CONNECTION WITH CERDS AND ALSO IN LA DIALOGUE WITH SECRETARY KISSINGER. HUERTA NOTED THAT CHILE'S COPPER NATIONALIZATION UNANIMOUSLY SUPPORTED BY ALL CHILEANS.

8. CHILE'S RELATIONS WITH OTHER LAS: HUERTA SAID RELATIONS WITH ARGENTINA ARE BETTER THAN THEY HAVE BEEN IN YEARS AND

THAT MAIN OUTSTANDING ISSUE, BORDER DISPUTE, IS NOW BEFORE ICJ AND SHOULD BE DECIDED WITHIN A YEAR. HE DENIED REPORTS THAT CHILE AND PERU MIGHT GO TO WAR AND SAID BOTH SIDES AGREE IT WOULD BE POINTLESS TO FIGHT ONE ANOTHER SINCE BOTH WAGING WAR AGAINST UNDERDEVELOPMENT. NOTING THAT HE HAD BEEN "WELL RECEIVED" DURING HIS VISIT TO MEXICO IN FEBRUARY 1974, HUERTA SAID HE DID NOT UNDERSTAND WHY MEXICO HAD BROKEN RELATIONS WITH CHILE AND SPECULATED THAT IT MIGHT BE RELATED TO MEXICAN DOMESTIC POLITICS.

9. RELATIONS WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES: HUERTA SAID THAT PRESENT GOC HAS GOOD RELATIONS WITH PRC AND HAS HAD NO COMPLAINTS WHATSOEVER TO MAKE AGAINST CHINA'S DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL WHO ARE "RESPECTFUL OF CHILE". HUERTA SAW NO SIGNS LEADING TO RESTORATION OF RELATIONS WITH "SOVIET BLOC" AND KNEW OF NO INITIATIVES ON THEIR PART.
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